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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1912.

## A Tribunal Without Judges.

A speaker at the closing session of the American Society for the Judicial Settlement of International Disputes, in this city, pointed out the chief obstacle which must be removed before the world can expect any great progress toward the acceptance of compulsory arbitration. Thomas Raeburn White, in making clear the distinction between the International Court of Arbitration at The Hague, which already exists, and the International Court of Arbitral Justice, recommended by the last Peace Conference, but not yet called into being, came very near touching the root of the opposition which has developed in our country to the practical application of judicial methods for the settlement of international disputes.

It is inevitable that there should have been among the active opponents of the arbitration treaties advocated by President Taft those who deliberately declined to contemplate the submission of questions of national policy to any outside tribunal for adjudication, and who rejected any approach to compulsory arbitration.

But there were sincere opponents of the treaties which failed of confirmation by the Senate, as there are today sincere men who doubt the expediency of submitting the canal tolls question to an international tribunal, who based their opposition on higher grounds, and Mr. White has indicated one difficulty. The present Court at The Hague is a body of delegates representing two score or more of nations from which an arbitration tribunal may be chosen, with the probability that any issue submitted to such a tribunal would finally be decided by one man, the umpire between the honest partisans of the respective litigants. As Mr. White expresses it:

Very few persons would be willing to submit an important difference with another to the irrevocable decision of one man, of whose identity they were ignorant. It is no wonder that nations still decline to submit all disputes without reservation to arbitration. I doubt if any of us would agree to submit all of our private disputes to a similarly constituted tribunal.

The obvious course would be to give the proposed international tribunal that permanency and its members that standing which would insure for it the respect and confidence of the world. What is wanted, if the reign of law is to be extended to nations as it has been to the relations between individuals within the civilized nations, is a judicial determination of disputes, not a mere series of compromises dictated by consideration of policy. Had there been in existence a tribunal, the members of which included men like James Bryce and Lord Alverstone, for Great Britain, and for us the Chief Justice of our Supreme Court and jurists of like standing for integrity and impartiality, much of the unwillingness to submit all international disputes to arbitration would not have manifested itself.

The second Peace Conference agreed upon the principle of such a permanent tribunal, but the failure to organize it, is next to military, the greatest obstacle to the attainment of the judicial settlement of international disputes.

## Interstate Board and Waterways.

If we get more waterways, shall we get more competition? It does not look like it. Are we wedded to any rates the railroads see fit to charge because they think that traffic will bear them?

Commissioner Conant's report is calculated to depress the advocates of deep waterways, for which an appropriation of \$50,000,000 has been urged (just as a starter). Ten times that amount has been suggested as an ultimate expenditure. The public has been interested in the proposal to develop the interior waterways down the Atlantic Coast, and several canals which promise to serve important commercial purposes. But the people have not gone to the extreme of urging ship canals with twenty-six feet of water or more. Sea-going vessels are not going to use these waterways, and while water communication is the cheapest of all, yet even in securing it some attention must be paid to expense. Artificial waterways, or natural ways improved, to accommodate barges or small steamers with a depth of about ten or twelve

feet, seem to be needed to afford cheap transportation and to keep railroad rates down.

Mr. Conant says that there is almost no competition with railroads now, nearly every steamship on the Atlantic and Gulf being controlled by the railroads, or by one or two steamship combinations. Pretty much all the Lake steamers are owned by railroad companies or by industrial corporations. On the Pacific Coast there is a little more independence, but the more important lines are owned by railroad companies. On the Mississippi the railroads have met the river competition so thoroughly as to drive commerce nearly from it. Here evidently there is real competition, but the steamboats seem to be passing out of existence. The boat service is not going to be kept up for the good of the public, and the railroads see to it that it shall not make much money. On the Erie Canal there is much the same situation. There is competition, and the consequence is that the railroads have got most of the traffic.

Mr. Conant refers to the fact that the Interstate Commerce Commission recently has received authority to regulate steamship rates where the service is performed in connection with railroads. As nearly all the steamers are now controlled by railroads, some further exercise of the commission's power will be necessary.

## The Dreihund Renewal.

For a diplomatic achievement of the magnitude and as far-reaching as the renewal of the Triple Alliance (Dreihund) between Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy, to be perfected without as much as a ripple of excitement in the political world or the international press, is the more extraordinary and unusual, as this bombshell has been exploded against the Triple Entente (England, Russia, and France) at a most unexpected and critical period, when war or peace in the Balkans is in the balance.

Rumors had been rife in European capitals that Italy would cut loose from the leash of the war lord at Berlin; that Victor Emmanuel, persuaded by his wife's father, the ruler of Montenegro, whose daughters were reared at the Court of the Czar, and one of whom is married to a Romanoff, would make common cause with Russia against his arch enemy, Austria, in order to accomplish his long-cherished desire to depose the Hapsburg dynasty of its last strips of coast land and ports on the Adriatic.

No doubt Serbia never would have dropped her otherwise unexplainable, determined stand against Austria had not the news of the renewal of the Triple Alliance been sprung upon her King and his advisers so suddenly, so unexpectedly. With Italy against her, Austria would indeed have had a critical problem to face. But backed by a continued Dreihund agreement, Serbia knew that the "jig was up."

Never before, since the days of its inception by the Iron Chancellor, has the Dreihund wielded the influence it does today. For watched by the combined navies of the Dreihund in the Adriatic or Aegean Seas, neither England nor Russia would dare to hold the Dardanelles. In plain words, this means that Constantinople is safe; that England cannot still more bottle up Russia in the Bosphorus, and that Russia cannot deprive England of the use of her short route to India.

Thus having secured a new lease of life, the Dreihund will remain that which it has been for more than a generation: the peace controller, the peace guarantor of Europe. Considering the bitter feeling that has existed for years between the Lombards of North Italy and the Wallisians of the Southern Tyrol on the Po and Adige boundaries, the Kaiser has accomplished nothing short of a miracle by patching up their differences and thus giving a new backbone to the top-heavy dual monarchy, besides giving the Balkan situation quite a new turn.

## Not Fads but Common Sense.

It might be worth while for physical culturists to observe the case of the student at Ithaca, N. Y., who boasts of his record of living on 85 cents a day on a diet of skimmed milk, butter, meat, stale bread at 3 cents a loaf, peanut butter, lentils, oatmeal, and apples. This goes beyond the cost prescribed recently by some economists, though the regimen is not so varied or palatable. If this student finishes his college career and goes out into the world with any sort of digestive apparatus he will be an exceptional person.

The public ought to bear in mind that the whole story will not be told until the young man is several years older and may desire to partake of foods not now on his diet list. He will perhaps discover that the stomach as well as the brain needs education, and that his present menu is not calculated to give him the power to assimilate food requisite for a system which hopes to do any important work in the world and at the same time enjoy good health. There are all sorts of faddists, but one seldom hears of their achievement of any good object in life, at least not until they have ceased to be absorbed in fads.

The best-informed persons do not eat heavy meals any more, and the men most successful in results forego the transient pleasures of overrich food and overstimulating drinks. Such an attitude is in line with scientifically demonstrated hygiene. But the opposite course is just as harmful to the human system, as extremes always are.

## A LITTLE NONSENSE.

## A GREAT SPECIES.

The Christmas tree nod in the breeze: These boughs are bending low. The crops they bear are rich and rare, As doubtless you may know.

This bough we tilt is sprouting gilt: Gilt balls on others bloom. The white and chrome and candy cane Have hardly any room.

The candles lit are a great sight, So is the star on top. Few trees there be on which we see Such an assorted crop.

## Uncle Pennywise Says.

My wife doesn't seem to care much for the shogun I got her for Christmas. Well, she got me a dining-room rug.

## Robbing the Jam Closet.

"What is your wife doing in the jam closet with a magnifying glass?" "She's getting to be quite an expert on finger prints. Who's the culprit this time, my dear?"

## December 26 in History.

December 26, 1334—Henry VIII gets his Santa Claus whiskers on fire. This had to happen.

December 26, 1765—Boswell and Dr. Johnson got home from a party started Christmas Eve.

## A Christmas Treat.

"Boys," said a good fellow, "I saw some newbies outside just now when we were badly in need of footgear. I have a suggestion to make."

"Fire away."

"Instead of making this round of booze, let's make it a round of shoes."

It was no order, and another good fellow insisted that everybody have a pair of mittens on him.

## A Mechanical Toy.

Mary had a little lamb: Twas in her stocking hid. It ran round when it was wound: That is, sometimes it did.

## Vindictive.

"I see here a man drowned his automobile. Ran it overboard in San Francisco Bay."

"I think I'd rather choke mine to death."

## The Harvest After Christmas.

"My wife thinks the poor are very provoking."

"How now?"

"She has been saving some nice crusts for a tramp, but all the tramps that go by are eating turkey sandwiches."

## A Business Deal.

"Nobody ever gets the best of Wombat."

"I once saw him get the worst of a business deal."

"Never."

"Fact. He had put a penny in a slot machine and it refused to give up."

## NEW YORK SOLONS GIVE PUNCH BOWL TO SULZER

## Empire State Representatives Present Governor-elect with Christmas Present—No Party Lines.

New York, Dec. 25.—As a mark of appreciation of the collegiality a committee representing the New York State delegation in Congress yesterday called on Governor-elect Sulzer and presented him with an immense punch bowl, a Christmas gift from fellow Congressmen.

Party lines were thrown aside in making the presentation, as nearly every member of Congress in the State was eager that his name should be among those to show their appreciation of the popular New York Representative, who a week from today will be inaugurated as Governor of the Empire State.

Mr. Sulzer is busily engaged preparing his inaugural address. When he leaves for Albany the latter part of this week it will mark the closing of the famous residence he has maintained at 125 Second Avenue. Mr. Sulzer's new home, as the capital in Albany, he will spend his time there, and not in New York, as has been the custom of many New York Governors in the past.

Col. Bryan passed through the city for Albany on his way to his new home. He is expected to arrive in Albany on Monday. Remembering a terrapin dinner he had eaten in Savannah on a previous occasion he asked Col. Bryan to see that his friend in Raleigh received a pair in time for his Christmas dinner. The terrapins were shipped from Barboursville, a terrapin farm at Isle of Hope.

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## GOSSIP OF PARTS OF EUROPE NOW IN THE PUBLIC EYE

The altogether unlooked-for demands on the part of Roumania to be given a slice of Bulgaria in return for her neutrality in the present war between the Balkan allies and Turkey is creating more than a passing interest in that country and its beautiful capital.

Bucharest is a city of contrasts. It may be said to bear some resemblance to Paris, Berlin, and St. Petersburg, but while displaying some of the characteristics of these three cities, it has a pronounced individuality of its own. The dominant note is one of beauty, that finds expression in the architecture of the public buildings and in the residential sections, which, with the ample gardens of its villas, dot the Roumanian capital. There is much of the outdoor life, and as in Paris the citizens sit and sip their fragrant coffee, or meet their friends, and discuss politics, or the latest social scandal. The wide Boulevard Elizabetha and Boulevard Carol, the equally fine Boulevard Victoria, and the Avenue de la Victoire—the main arteries of the city—with their wealth of color, suggest to the mind of the visitor the Champs Elysees of Paris, the Unter den Linden of Berlin, or the Nevsky Prospekt of St. Petersburg. The fashionable thoroughfares in fine weather are rarely empty between noon and 5 o'clock in the evening. Here, in the passing crowd, one finds the handsome daughters of Bucharest wearing gowns which bear the unmistakable stamp of the Rue de la Paix, military officers in uniform, civilians in black or blue, adorned tweeds, and, finally, peasants in the picturesque national dress.

It has been said of Roumania that it obtains its waltzers from Germany, its harvesting machinery from America, its cab drivers from Russia, and its culture from France. French is the foreign language most widely known in Bucharest. German comes next, with English a poor third. At the bookstalls marked prominently in French, English, and German, and Paris newspapers, and as for Bucharest, it has three daily papers of its own, published in the language of Voltaire. It is a fond of the theater, and is especially partial to French dramatic art. Bucharest does not lack playhouses. The recently-built Comedie Francaise is a fine building, of white stone, in Grecian style, which, for architectural elegance, beauty of design, and interior comfort, compares favorably with any theater in Eastern Europe. The house rarely is without its company of French artists, with a host of native talent.

In their appreciation of drama and comedy from Paris, Bucharest audiences receive a refined taste. Suggestive productions would be apt to be coldly received in the Roumanian capital. Under the name of the Comedie is the Palace Theater of Varieties, where star artists from the London halls find a gratifying welcome. There is a National Theater, which, although not so grand as the others, is the popularizing of the works of Roumanian authors; it encourages national dramatic art, and fosters national sentiment. Occasionally it presents the plays of the world's greatest dramatists in the vernacular. Shakespeare is much in vogue.

The subjects of King Carol devote themselves to the pursuit of knowledge and the acquiring of culture, with something of the fervor and enthusiasm which the land devotes to the cult of sport. The chief ambition of a Bucharest citizen, after being well dressed, is to be looked upon as being well read. Every one, whether young or old, has his station in life high or low, takes pride in displaying a keen and intelligent interest in the affairs of the world.

Bucharest receives her visitors with open arms. It is a very progressive city; in some respects it has outdistanced Western Europe. But it still reckons its year according to the old style, and its calendar, in consequence, is thirteen days behind the Western calendar. The reformed Gregorian calendar is not to the taste of the Orthodox Greek Church, all-powerful as it is regarding

The Royal Palace is in the heart of Bucharest, near the intersection of the Boulevard Elizabetha, with the bustle of the city. During the day the palace gates stand wide open, guarded by soldiers in uniform, for all may enter the palace inclosure without formality. The holiday-making peasants, bringing with them bunches of freshly-gathered flowers, file into the palace courtyard, and reverently deposit their floral offerings at the door of the queen's apartment, as if it were some holy shrine. Then they file out again. What a simple, yet touching, tribute to womanly values!

There may be said to be the dominant note of Roumanian literature, Alexandru Vladimirescu, George Cosbuc, Octavian Goga, and C. Sadeanu are literary whose names and works are rightly held in their countrymen's hearts. Another author, Dobrogeanu-Gherea, the "Bernard Shaw" of Roumania, in his recently published book, "Neologism," deals with the agricultural question, and voices the claims of the laborer. And last, but not least, the opera "Le Czar," now being played in Paris, which faithfully portrays certain phases of Roumanian life and sentiment, from the point of view of a Russian, a gifted countrywoman of Carmen Sylva.

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## COMING TO THE THEATERS

## National—"A Good Little Devil."

The National's merriest will abound at the National's next week for David Belasco comes with his newest production, "A Good Little Devil," which is all about a little boy and his sweetheart, who were befriended by the fairies, who had many trials before their course of love ran smooth, but who finally overcame all difficulties and "lived happily ever after."

One would hardly believe the play, described as a "fairy play," could be so full of interest and variety. As this work by Rosemond Gerard and Maurice Rostand. Surely the wife and son of the author of "Cyrano de Bergerac," "Aladdin," and "Chanticleer" have wonderfully honored the honor of the family name, and yet, for the purposes of the English-speaking stage, they owe much to the delightful adaptation by Austin Strong and his company. The unusual interpretation and staging by David Belasco.

Columbia—James K. Hackett. James K. Hackett will begin a week's engagement at the Columbia Monday night in "The Grain of Dust," a powerful play of to-day, which Louis Evans Shipman, author of "The Crisis," "A Day of the Guards," and other prominent dramatic works, made from David Graham Phillips' made-for-the-stage novel of the same name for Mr. Hackett.

It is, of course, a female grain of dust, which gets into the eye of Frederick Norman, the young corporation lawyer, who is the hero of the play. He is a young man of high social position, and is a member of the elite of New York. He is a young man of high social position, and is a member of the elite of New York. He is a young man of high social position, and is a member of the elite of New York.

Academy—Norman Hackett, in "Satan Sanderson." Hattie Ermaire Rivers' story, "Satan Sanderson," will be seen at the Academy next week, with Norman Hackett in the title role.

When Miss Rivers met the company after the play she told them of their original prototypes. Satan Sanderson, she said, was evolved from the description of her husband had given her of a elum of his at Princeton, who was a reckless young college boy known to his classmates as "Satan," being the leader of a dissolute gang called "The Satan," but who afterward reformed and became a minister.

She declares that the entire Western atmosphere of the scene is a faithful picture of life as she studied it, and her enthusiasm over the way Mr. Hackett and his company had caught the spirit of the play pleased her quite as much as it did her. "Satan Sanderson," is said to afford Mr. Hackett the best opportunity of his notable career.

Poli's—Vaudeville. Appropriately for the season is the headline attraction at Poli's next week, where "A New Year's Dream" will be the feature of the vaudeville programme.

"A New Year's Dream" will be enacted by young comedienne Norma Patricia. Second in importance on the programme will be De Marco's Animals, featuring ponies, dogs, monkeys, and guinea pigs.

Miss Clara Stevens, formerly a successful dancing teacher of Washington, will be seen in a terpsichorean diversion, assisted by Martin Howard. The leading musical event will be the appearance of Scholander and Dickinson. Sam Golden, the dancing violinist, will add mirth as well as music to the holiday festivities.

Gayety—"The Gay Masqueraders." The "Gay Masqueraders," with George B. Scanlon, Mark Adams, and Countess Hedwig von Mueller, are the attraction at the Gayety New Year's week.

A gay little farce entitled "The Three Widows" contains excellent parts for George B. Scanlon and Mark Adams, who are the principal comedians. Countess von Mueller has a part that is admirably suited to her and is contained in the latest Parisian creations. Ted Snyder

Belasco—"The Merry Widow." "The Merry Widow" was silent last season, but before that had been an object lesson to American composers and authors for four years.

The demand for the opera was created and had to filled or starvation would stare the average musical comedy producer in the face. So away they went to the same field which had been broken into by Henry W. Savage and began to grab everything Viennese in sight. They have been called Viennese operettas and the term has come to be used much abused charity, the champagne snuffing of the world.

But that masterpiece of them all, yet in the control of the great producer who has made it immortal as an epoch-making work, "The Merry Widow" will be offered by Henry W. Savage at the Belasco next week.

It contains the familiar names of Mabel Wilber, Charles Macklin, Oscar Fegman, Arthur Woolley, and F. J. McCarty.

Gifts for Clara Morris. Yonkers, N. Y., Dec. 25.—Clara Morris, the retired actress, was delighted to-day with messages and gifts from theatrical folk and other friends to make her Christmas happy. Miss Morris is now totally blind. Her husband, Henry Hope, her hired man, who has worked without salary for eight years, a suitable present.

## FIRE ESCAPES

## By GEORGE FITCH.

Author of "At Good Old Strath."

There are three kinds of fire escapes—the fire escape, the fire escape, and the fire escape. It takes all one's life to escape from fire by means of the Bible. By means of industry one may escape for many years, only to be fired when old and infirm. But by means of the patent fire escape which is fastened on the outside of the hotel and is connected with the interior by locked doors designated by red lights which aren't burning one may sometimes escape from fire in less than ten minutes.

The common or roof-garden fire escape is made of iron steps or ladders with platforms at each floor. These ladders are connected with the earth by about eight feet of atmosphere of the building. The escape must jump. In case of fire on the nineteenth floor, the fire escape affords a safe and exhilarating pastime. Those who have tried tripping merrily down a ladder 300 feet above the ground holding on with one hand and dreading hastily with the other, have recommended the sport as much preferable to parachute jumping.

In great cities all tenements are fitted with fire escapes which are so much more comfortable than the tenements themselves that people sleep on them during the summer. All of the great hotels of the country are also fitted with fire escapes. These also act as bill escapes on many occasions, and much of the profits of hotel keeping go down the escapes with guests who cannot bear to travel in the country. A clerk in the morning, the clerk a life good-by in the morning.

Fire escapes do not save many lives because they are always somewhere else when the fire breaks out. But they are a great comfort to the timid woman who

couldn't climb down a set of cellar stairs in five minutes, and as soon as the fire that she is connected with the earth by 175 feet of rusty ladders with the cold north wind shunting through them she feels as safe in her hotel bed as if she was at home.

After gazing upon several thousands of rickety old wooden buildings throughout America, all fitted with fire escapes,

we have concluded that (these inventions are doing a nefarious work by assisting the building themselves to escape from fire, and thus arresting the cause of architecture and the vitals beautiful. What most of America's buildings need is not fire escapes, but a torch.

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## STATESMEN—REAL AND NEAR

## By FRED C. KELLY.

Interviewing Senator Elihu Root is a strain not only upon one's ingenuity, but upon one's ears. The Senator carries on ordinary conversation in such a low, well-nigh inaudible tone that it is only with a good break of luck that one can catch all he says. As it is embarrassing to keep asking a man to repeat things, the interviewer may let a lot of stuff get by him.

However, a time ago there was a matter of some importance about which a big newspaper wished to be let in on. The correspondent for the paper went to Root and asked him a lot of things, including one relating to the matter he wanted to know about. Root replied so humbly to that very question that the correspondent couldn't understand a word he said. It was too important, he said, and the correspondent said, "politely enough."

"I couldn't catch that, Senator."

Root smiled a sly, dry smile as he observed, "I didn't intend that you should."

Some years ago, at the time of the Boxer uprising in China, when it looked as if the United States might have stepped into the ring with China, Root, then Secretary of War, was the only Cabinet officer in town, and was running practically the whole blooming government. Several prominent correspondents went to see him to ascertain if we were going to have war with China. They found their question in diplomatic language, which means that they asked nothing outright, but sought by innocent-looking queries to get a fact here and a hint there.

Root parried all these little attacks with a facile skill born of long experience. After three-quarters of an hour of questions, the correspondents, who were all men, asked, just by way of bravado:

"Well, Mr. Secretary, are we going to have war with China?"

"Why," he replied Root, promptly. "They were all wishing to know all they had been seeking to learn by their pliancy of ingenious questions. You see, the point of the matter was that Root didn't intend to be outdone in any match of wits. As soon as they put the proposition right up to him, denied by any strategic beating about the bush, he answered with the utmost freedom.

As a matter of fact, those connected with the State Department became sick and tired of the diplomatic form of questions. An Ambassador, for example, would never say: "My ruler wants to know if you will lend him a match." He would say: "I have no doubt but that my ruler would be entirely pleased

and Irving Berlin have contributed many song numbers and Julian Alfred has had the drilling of the chords in many original dances.

Casino Theater. Holiday amusement and the merry spirit of the Christmas season will be the enjoyable apple of next week's bill at the Casino Theater. The Great Blaudine, one of the most remarkable comedians before the public, will give an exhibition of his prowess in many diverting ways, interlarded with wit and humor; the Ballo brothers, real Mexicans of high musical accomplishment on the guitar, mandolin, and banjo, will provide an entertaining number. Miss Emerson, the dancing queen, will give a thrilling exhibition of a la Charming, in mid-air, upon the high trapeze; the Penn trio will sing and dance and say funny things, while "Centric" features the burlesque, and the first going with his swinging rhythm in breakdowns, jigs and can-can.

The management is unable as yet to announce the headliner feature, but promises will be a great surprise. The motion pictures will be of the clean, enjoyable type, which makes up the Casino standard.

Lyceum Theater. If the latest musical comedy, "Nix Nix Nix" in Washington, and "The Hotel Cabaret," which the popular "Girls From Reno" present at the Lyceum Theater next week, commencing Monday, December 30, fails to tickle the ribbilities of the local devotees of clean-cut fun, merriment, and mirth, it will be because folk in search of pure, wholesome comedy have become too careless and critical.

Everything that goes to make a first-class offering has been provided. There is something going on all the time as the novelties and features introduced are as compelling as they are original.

Thirty pretty chorus beauties appear in glittering and appropriate costumes, and the music and song hits command immediate attention any where. The cast includes the following well-known stars: Mike D. Collins, "the funniest man in burlesque," Harry C. Campbell, "king of Irish comedians," Lew Reynolds, "the happy hobo"; Jeanette Young, "the Tetrastri of burlesque"; Dillie Fields, clever exponent of "Nix Nix Nix"; and sweet singer, Arthur Weisberg, the "funny politician"; Margaret H. King, "the laughing girl," and others.

Extra attraction, El Ciego, the famous Xylophone player. "Country Store." Extra tonight, buck and wing dancing. Contest open to all. Three cash prizes given.

By special request of the patrons of the Lyceum Theater, Manager C. Mayer

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